

DISCOVERY



The Development of Combat Power and Efficiency

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Through the Many Facets of Aerospace Medicine

Officials delaying promotion releases

By Master Sgt. Ron Tull

Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Air Force people patiently waiting to find out how they did on their promotion tests for staff, technical and master sergeant will have to wait a little longer.

The promotion selectee lists for E-6 and E-7 are normally targeted for release on the first Thursday in June but will instead be released June 27. The E-5 list release date, usually the first Wednesday in August, is now Aug. 14.

The high operations tempo since Sept. 11 meant that many of those eligible for promotion were deployed when it came time to test for their next stripe, said Chief Master Sgt. Carol Dockery, chief of enlisted evaluations and promotions at the Pentagon.

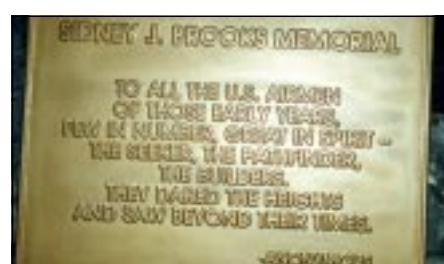
The overriding goal, said Senior Master Sgt. Nathalie Swisher, chief of the enlisted promotion management section at the Air Force Personnel Center, must be to consider every noncommissioned officer possible in the original selection run and reduce the number of supplemental actions down the road.

"That's the main reason for the delayed announcements," she said.

While a small percentage of stripes are always held back for late-comers, many people eligible for promotion to technical and master sergeant are still "nonweighable," meaning they are eligible for promotion but do not have a test on file.

See Delays, Page 6

INSIDE



Brooks landmarks part of history

Page
4



USAFSAM's Buffalo Soldier leads cavalry training

Page
15



Photo by Cerise Fenton

Silent vigil

Members of the Brooks Community, including 311th Human Systems Wing Commander Brig. Gen. Lloyd Dodd and 311th HSW Vice Commander Col. Stuart Cowles, participate in the Memorial Day commemorative silent vigil at Brooks. Different individuals took vigil at the flag pole in front of Bldg. 150 from Reveille to Taps in honor of American POWs and MIAs.

MOU ensures base historical assets are safe

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

Brooks historical resources were given a 'new lease on life' May 14 when Air Force, state and local leaders signed a Memorandum of Agreement that ensures these culturally significant assets will be preserved and maintained during the City-Base era.

Held at Hangar 9 in conjunction with National Historic Preservation Week, the MOU signing ceremony formalized an agreement between six stakeholders involving the disposition of several historical buildings that contributed to America's space program and Air Force aerospace medicine.

MOU properties include 15 buildings in the "100" area collectively known as the "Man-in-Space Historic District;" 311th Air Base Group headquarters Bldg. 538 and Hangar 9.

"This agreement represents a major step in the evolution of the City-Base Project. Before we convey base properties to the city, we must ensure historical properties on base will be looked after in the future," said Dr. Brendan Godfrey, 311th Human Systems Wing deputy director.

This MOU was required under provisions of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 that specifies fulfillment of federal agency responsibilities prior to the transfer of property out of federal ownership.

The planned conveyance of Brooks

property this summer to the Brooks Development Authority, a municipality created under Texas law to administer the base transfer, prompted the MOU.

"Unless we have a true appreciation of our history, we can not have a true appreciation for our environment," said MOU signatory Maureen Koetz, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Environment, Safety and Occupational Health.

The ceremony was the culmination of several months of negotiations between the Air Force, the City of San Antonio, Texas State Historic Preservation Office, Brooks Development Authority, San Antonio Conservation Society and the Brooks Heritage Foundation.

"When a federal agency such as the Air Force proposes to transfer property out of federal ownership it must analyze the action for any adverse effect to the property," said Ian Smith with the Brooks City-Base Project Office.

Smith explained that the Air Force conducted an environmental analysis of the City-Base proposal that included identifying historically significant resources. The most obvious Brooks landmark is Hangar 9, listed on the National Register of Historic Places as the last remaining World War I wooden hangar in America. Not-so-obvious historical treasures include Bldg. 538, the original home of the School of Aerospace Medicine, and a Brooks

area known as "The Hill" which is home to a group of the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine buildings used to support the U.S. Man-In-Space program between 1958 and 1973.

Godfrey noted that Brooks leaders consulted with the state, local agencies and representatives of the local historic community to reach a mutually agreeable balance between development of the property here for economic growth and protection of Air Force heritage. MOU signatory and Texas State Historic Preservation Officer F. Lawrence Oaks noted that historic preservation doesn't have to be pursued at the expense of economic development.

Brooks Development Authority chairman Howard Peak explained that historic property preservation is a selling point rather than an obstacle to economic growth. The former San Antonio mayor said, "It's the past that helped build the foundation of what Brooks has become, and what the Brooks Development Authority intends it to be."

San Antonio Conservation Society President Jill Harrison Souter added, "Historic preservation is economic development."

Souter, Peak, Assistant City Manager Chris Brady and Brooks Heritage Foundation chairman Brig. Gen. (Ret.) John Jernigan were also MOU signatories.

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Commentary



AFMC meeting transformation challenges

By Gen. Lester Lyles

AFMC commander

It is said that the one constant in life is change. Organizations and people either adapt to changing environments and move forward, or they become ineffective. We are part of the most potent combat force history has known, but history has also shown us that no country may rest on its laurels.

The United States faces a world that has changed dramatically in recent years. There are new global threats to our national security. Many of these threats come from people and organizations outside formal states willing to use weapons of terror to achieve their ends. Technology has increased the flow of information and access to destructive weapons. The pace of change is staggering. If there was any doubt the world has changed, that reality hit home during last September's terrorist attacks.

The Department of Defense is meeting these new challenges with an ambitious effort to transform its organizations and processes. This transformation will ensure America's military forces continue to effectively secure our nation. Despite an unprecedented war against terrorism on two fronts, DoD is committed to this effort. If we do not rapidly transform, our leaders have warned that we risk losing the next war. This is an imperative none of us can afford to ignore!

Our Air Force is joined in the military's effort to transform. We seek to create for ourselves a significantly greater—or asymmetric—advantage over potential adversaries. Achieving this will take new operational concepts and advances in technology. It will also require changes in our organizational structure and business practices. All of these efforts are under way, in every Air Force command including our own.

My vision for Air Force Materiel Command is to be the Air Force's first choice for solutions. We must be recognized as "world class" in all our operations. We must be innovative and proactive, effective and efficient. We must be consistently responsive to warfighter needs. Using an integrated approach, we will seek quick results from some leading programs—called "pathfinders"—while transforming overall processes that will benefit all of us long-term.

AFMC's role in the overall Air Force transformation is absolutely pivotal. Through our mission of providing warfighting capabilities, our command integrates the Air Force's operational and business transformations. There is no way the Air Force can successfully transform without considering the technology, acquisition and sustainment support that we provide.

This command is no stranger to transformation. Over the years, our goal of providing the warfighter with combat capability has remained constant. However, our organizations, our processes and our technologies have frequently changed. Today's transformation is a steep new path on our journey, one on which we are already embarked. The pace will be rapid and the changes radical. Expect the effects to be far-reaching.

Working closely with Air Force leadership, we are transforming our acquisition and sustainment practices to meet today's demanding environment. This will take increasingly agile acquisition processes. It will mean closer alignment of developmental and operational testing. It will also require making our depots as efficient as the best depot maintenance repair organizations in the commercial sector.

One AFMC initiative embraced by Air Force leadership and warfighters alike is enterprise management. This puts a single person in charge of a system of systems, leading to better development decisions and making it easier for customers to get solutions from a single point of contact. Enterprise management shatters information stovepipes. It dovetails perfectly with agile acquisition and other transformation efforts.

We have been challenged to cut cycle acquisition time—the period it takes to go from identifying the requirements to fielding a system or capability—by three quarters. That four-to-one cycle time reduction will not be easy to achieve. It will take major increases in productivity and decreases in workload. We may need to divest ourselves of some low-payoff programs. Other prerequisites, such as the need for more stability in funding, may require support all the way to Congress.

The key to a more responsive acquisition system is adopting a process of spiral development. This incremental approach to developing weapons systems produces im-

provements in stages. Besides delivering capability to the warfighter more rapidly, it allows for course corrections at each stage to improve the final product. This will enable us to deliver 21st century weapons to counter our 21st century threats.

We cannot achieve this independently. Everything we do, in the science and technology, sustainment and acquisition arenas, we do for the warfighter—but we cannot do any of it without the warfighter.

Spiral development also means spiral requirements. The warfighter must work with us to ensure we understand and interpret requirements appropriately. We must share information on science and technology and which applications are feasible. We must also play in the development of Air Force doctrine and in wargaming. Success will take a collaborative team effort between equal partners. We are warriors supporting warriors.

To help guide us through this transformation, I have chartered a team that was formally stood up in May. It is staffed with some of our best and brightest. They will have free rein to "think out of the box" and to develop ideas to improve the way we do business. We may not be able to implement all ideas, but we'll certainly gain a new perspective. In the interim, a working group and a transition team drawn from my headquarters staff has spent months laying the groundwork for our transformation.

An equally important part of our transformation is to make life better for AFMC members. While there will be some organizational changes and many process changes ahead, I do not expect any of them to result in a loss of jobs. Transformation is not a downsizing drill! It is a way of thinking and reacting in new ways. It is a means to inject radical improvements in the way we do business. It is about freeing talented people to use innovation and good ideas every day in working their programs.

What I expect is that AFMC employees will be able to perform their duties in a more challenging, stimulating environment. I want to make sure that we are giving people the tools and opportunities to be more successful in the future, professionally and personally. We will provide more opportunities for education and training. We will seek to relieve some of the burdens we have imposed upon people in terms of regulations and restrictions. Our transformed processes should mean fewer obstacles as individuals execute their missions.

I am very proud of the work each of you does on a daily basis. Together, you power the Air Force by providing combat capability. Like your predecessors, you have created and sustained the tools for warfighter success in recent conflicts as well as today's Operations Enduring Freedom and Noble Eagle. I hear how much you are appreciated constantly from the people you support.

But, now is not the time to rest on our laurels. Each of us must evolve with the global environment to meet the demands of future conflicts. We must make the cultural changes required to be successful. We must continue to deliver tomorrow's technologies in today's weapon systems, faster, cheaper and better.

What I do ultimately matters less than what each of you do. I expect you to tell your leaders and me what is needed to improve every facet of our operations. This transformation encompasses every aspect of our mission, from science and technology, through acquisition and testing, to sustainment. It will also impact our enabling support processes. Let us know how we can help you better accomplish your jobs. We cannot transform without you!

Ours is an organization with a long history of successful adaptation to change, and I am confident that AFMC's people are up to the challenge.

The threat is real. The imperative is urgent. While many questions remain, our course is charted. Today's ambitious effort to transform will yield new improvements to the combat capability that America's warfighters rely on.

I am excited about the opportunities ahead, and I urge each of you to share that enthusiasm—or at least to keep an open mind.

Our Air Force and our nation depend upon it!



Gen. Lester Lyles

Air Force Materiel commander



Civilians of the Quarter for Jan. 1-March 31, 2002



Category I Student Aide
Mary Becerra
USAFSAM/EAE



Category II GS3-5
Katherine Taylor
USAFSAM/EAE



Category III GS6-8
Erla Naumann
311th MDS



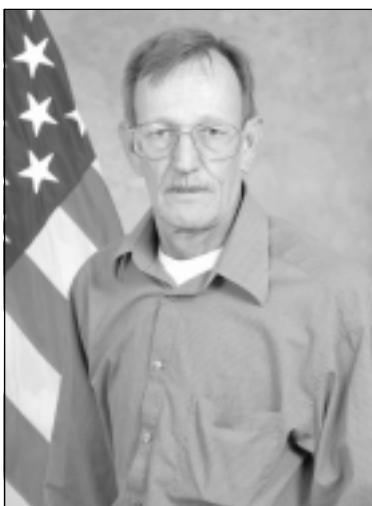
Category IV GS9-11
Leonard Draper
311th HSW/YACS



Category V GS12-13
Sherol Curtois
AFRL



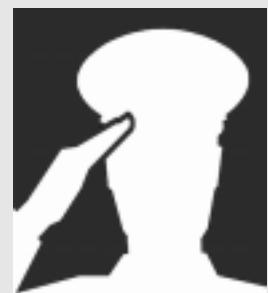
Category VI NAF
Jesus Arriola
311th ABG/CEOFO



Category VI1 NAF
Hugo Connell
311th ABG/SVRG

June Enlisted Promotions

We SALUTE you!



The following Brooks enlisted members sew on new stripes in June.

To Senior Master Sergeant:

Bertell Francois
311th Air Base Group

To Master Sergeant:

Susan Cushing
311th ABG

To Technical Sergeant:

Donald Carbajal
311th Human Systems Wing

Dean Kim

311th HSW

Michael Mainor

311th Medical Squadron

Danny Marks

Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence

Mona Wendzillo
311th MDS

To Senior Airman:

Vanessa Pagaduan
Air Force Research Laboratory

Kristy Winder

311th MDS

To Airman First Class:

Dawn Fojtik

USAFSAM

Christopher Helton

USAFSAM

Frank Herty

311th MDS

Nicholas Kippen

68th Information Operations Squadron

Thalvic Mosquera
USAFSAM

Brian Sims

68th IOS



Landmarks, hidden treasures part of Brooks historic past

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

While Hangar 9 remains the undisputed centerpiece of Brooks historic past, other historic preservation 'treasures' have been cast in supportive roles for the future development of City-Base.

In the wake of the recent Memorandum of Understanding between the Air Force and various stakeholders involving the perpetual maintenance of Brooks historical properties, City-Base planners hope to use these assets to bolster eco-cultural tourism.

Among the so-called 'hidden' sites protected and showcased are 15 buildings designated as the "Man-In-Space" Historic District. Geographically concentrated on 15 acres atop a knoll known as "The Hill," this U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine complex played a significant role in U.S. Air Force and space history as an aeromedical research supercenter.

Within this district USAFSAM scientists, engineers and technicians were engaged in biomedical technology research and development supporting manned space flight.

Activities at these facilities included astronaut selection and flight screening for the Manned Orbiting Laboratory and Gemini and Apollo programs; spacecraft environment and life support research; design of biopacks, spacesuits for extended extravehicular activity and Apollo spacecraft couches; and the development of radiation screening devices and space food.

The 15 buildings within this historic district formed the nucleus of USAFSAM's "100" area that originally consisted of 47 facilities situated throughout the base. The first five buildings on "The Hill" were completed in 1959. Among them is the Ellingson Aerospace Medicine Consultation Center (Bldg. 100) which originally housed the Clinical Science Laboratory (also known as the Flight Medicine Lab) where NASA astronaut candidates were first evaluated in 1962.

In 1981, Bldg. 100 was memorialized in honor of Col. Harold Ellingson, USAFSAM commander from 1963-1966.

The most visible and largest of the original 1959 facilities is Bldg. 125 that initially housed USAFSAM's Research Institute, composed of several Department of Space Medicine laboratories. Spacecraft environment studies, using space cabin simulators, were conducted in this building that also housed a 47,000-volume medical research library. Other Bldg. 125 tenants included the Department of Microbiology-Cellular Biology labs; pathology, toxicology and pharmacology labs; and the Department of Veterinary Science's vivarium which was home to "Miss SAM," the second Rhesus monkey launched into space during Project Mercury. Bldg. 125 later became headquarters for the Armstrong

Laboratory and has since been dedicated in honor of the late aerospace medicine pioneer Maj. Gen. Harry Armstrong.

"The Hill's" other original 1959 buildings include Bldg. 130 that contained the Research Laboratory Shops where prototype aeromedical instruments and space devices were fabricated; Bldg. 180 that served as USAFSAM's academic facility which was dedicated as Kilday Hall in 1971 in honor of former Congressman

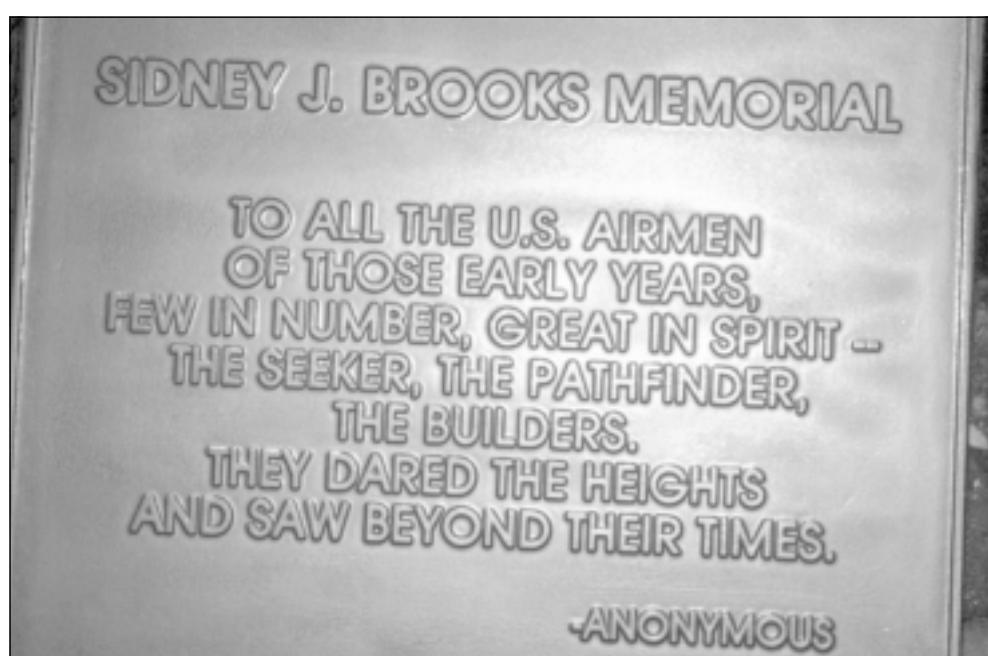
Paul J. Kilday, a Brooks aeromedical center advocate; and Bldg. 160 which houses the Harmon-Bartley Altitude Laboratory, memorialized for Airmen Richard Harmon and William Bartley who were killed in a fire there, and the Davis Hyperbaric Laboratory, memorialized in 1989 in honor of Dr. Jefferson Davis, "father of hyperbaric medicine."

The most historic post-1959 facilities in the "100" area is Bldg. 170 which houses the centrifuge. This facility was first home to the Bioastronautics and Biodynamics Laboratory in 1964, and memorialized in 1987 in honor of Dr. Sidney Leverett Jr., a pioneer in G-force acceleration physiology.

Other '100' area historic district facilities include Bldg. 110, Aerospace



The Brooks Memorial and historic Hangar 9.



Photos by Rudy Purificato

The Sidney J. Brooks Memorial is located at Hangar 9.

Environmental Science Lab originally used for medical and psychological testing; Bldg. 140, Environmental Health Lab where biochemical, metabolic and nutritional space research was conducted; Bldg. 150, an academic facility that now houses the 311th Human Systems Wing headquarters and was memorialized in 1998 in honor of Maj. Gen. Theodore Bedwell, first commander of the Aerospace Medical Division; Bldg. 155 that houses the Aerospace Medical Research Library; Bldg. 167, formerly known as the Technical Equipment Repair Shop; Bldg. 175, Bionucleonics Lab, where space radiation studies were held; Bldg. 176, electronics science lab where earth and space-based sensors were developed; Bldg. 185, Vivarium Support Facility; and Bldg. 186 known as the Electron Acceleration Laboratory where ionizing radiation studies were conducted.

Other historical treasures abound outside of "The Hill," including Bldg. 538 which today serves as the 311th Air Base Group headquarters. This building is significant as the first permanent facility constructed for the School of Aerospace Medicine in 1927. The school's staff administered physical exams here for Brooks and Kelly Field cadets enrolled in the Army Air Corps training program.

Besides historic buildings, Brooks is also home to several landmarks. The most visible of these, located near the main gate, is Schriever Memorial Park featuring a static display of an F-

100F Supersabre replica of the Aerospace Medical Division's "Weightless 2" aircraft used in early zero gravity experiments. In 1986, the park was dedicated to Gen. Bernard Schriever, first Air Force Systems Command commander.

In contrast to the Brooks Memorial at Hangar 9, which honors the base's namesake who is buried behind the monument, the least noticeable landmark is located near Bldg. 150's flagpole. The dedication marker was designed to resemble the lectern used by President John F. Kennedy during his 1963 Brooks visit. The last paragraph of Kennedy's "Cap over the wall of space" speech is featured on the marker, and commemorates his participation in the dedication of USAFSAM's "100" area facilities. The words on the marker are the last public comments made by Kennedy, who was assassinated the following day.



An F-100F Supersabre replica of the "Weightless 2" aircraft used during early zero-gravity experiments dominates the landscape at Schriever Memorial Park.



CSAF survey results show improvement in nearly all areas

WASHINGTON — More than 279,000 Air Force active duty and civilians spoke their mind about issues affecting their day-to-day work in the 2002 Chief of Staff of the Air Force Organization Climate Survey.

Results of the survey, which ran Jan. 22 to March 8, were briefed to Gen. John Jumper, Air Force chief of staff, earlier this month.

"This survey provides me and leaders at all levels in the chain of command critical information on how we are doing in our organizations," Jumper said. "We plan to use these results to make our working environments better for all Air Force people."

Results of the survey were sent to commanders Air Force-wide May 24.

"Once the commanders have the results in hand, they are urged to share the results with troops through feedback sessions, and translate the information into action," said Lori Marcum, survey team leader.

Marcum said a primary goal of the survey was to make sure commanders at all levels are provided the necessary tools to take advantage of this valuable information.

Survey officials took great care to protect the anonymity of respondents. Officials said this resulted in the survey having the highest response rate to date with more than 65 percent of the Air Force participating, almost double the response rates of either the 1997 or 1999 surveys.

Overall, this year's survey results went up in almost all areas as compared to the 1999 results. Participants rated questions from "strongly disagreed" to "strongly agreed."

The highest-rated area was unit performance outcomes. Ninety-three percent of the people agreed they are getting the mission done and are doing it well. The area rated second highest was jobs, at 91 percent, which indicates people find their jobs motivating, important, interesting and challenging, said officials.

But, only 72 percent of the respondents agreed about the adequacy of resources. Officials believe this is an indication that respondents are working hard, but think they do not have enough people to get the mission done.

Resources and unit recognition are areas where the Air Force has histori-

cally not fared well; however, there is an upward trend in this. While resources were rated low, when asked the question, "Do I have enough time," the rating is up from prior surveys, indicating work processes are improving. In the recognition area, 72 percent of respondents agreed they were being recognized for exceptional performance by their chain of command.

In the unit leadership section, 78 percent of respondents agreed leadership in their chain of command, influenced the direction, people and culture which officials say shows trusted in their commanders.

Supervision is typically evaluated two ways: managing resources and taking care of people. Most respondents felt their supervisors looked out for their best interests. In fact, 82 percent agreed their supervisors were proficient in planning, organizing, leading and providing feedback.

In the general satisfaction section area, 75 percent of respondents agree they receive a sense of accomplishment and personal fulfillment from the work they do and from the environment that surrounds them.

Survey responses showed little difference between home station or deployed units in key measures such as unit performance perceptions, general satisfaction and motivation to go above and beyond the job without official rewards and recognition. Also, there was little difference in these measures between deployed areas of responsibility.

The historical section asked members assigned to the same unit when 1999 survey results were released if their leaders used the results positively. Forty-one percent said the results were used in a positive way; however, 43 percent didn't know and 16 percent said no.

Further analysis showed higher ratings in all outcomes for units in which leaders provided feedback to their people; however, providing feedback alone does not create higher results, said officials. They said data indicates leaders who listened and implemented ideas and suggestions tended to have higher performing units, more satisfied people and people who are willing to go above and beyond the job without official rewards and recognition.



Brooks Family Support Center activities

Call 536-2444 for information

Smooth Move

**12:30 - 3p.m., June 11, Bldg. 537—
(Pre-registering a must)**

PCSing? Hear briefings from travel management office, legal, the medical clinic, finance, housing and the Family Support Center, and get answers to your questions.

This "Year of the Family" class is open to active duty servicemembers, Department of Defense civilians, and spouses.

PCS Overseas

3 - 4 p.m., June 11, Bldg. 537

Any move can be stressful, but an overseas move has its own set of challenges and opportunities. Learn more about OCONUS PCS by attending the Smooth Move Seminar and staying after for this class.

Bundles for Babies- Expectant Parents Session

8 a.m.-noon, June 13, Bldg. 537

This is an Air Force Aid Society sponsored class for active duty Air Force couples with a newborn or expecting a child.

This class provides information about budgeting, basic baby care, infant development, effective parenting, and more.

Sponsor Training

10 - 11 a.m., June 17, Bldg. 537

In accordance with Air Force Instruction 36-3011, sponsor training is mandatory for all first-time sponsors and those who have not sponsored within the past year. Others are welcome to attend, though. Learn about tools and resources available for sponsors.

Delays

Continued from Page 1

"The delay will give more people, who could not test on time because they were deployed, the opportunity to compete with the majority of their peers instead of having to go through the supplemental process," Swisher said.

"The Air Force's target goal for nonweighables when it comes time for selections is less than 1 percent of the eligible population," she said. "Waiting as long as they can allows the Air Force Personnel Center to get a select list that mirrors what it would look like if 100 percent of the eligibles had tested. This ensures the Weighted Airman Promotion System continues to be fair and equitable for all NCOs competing for promotion."

It is a process, added Dockery, that will allow flexibility for all involved.

"It's better to get the majority of nonweighables taken care of as quickly as possible, because as soon as this release is finished, we'll begin spinning up for the staff sergeant release," Dockery said.

"Anytime we can change the system to allow commanders and individuals a little bit more flexibility, we gladly do that."

Besides expanding the testing window, Air Force Personnel Center officials allowed individuals deploying on lengthy temporary duty assignments an opportunity to test earlier than the 10-day window currently authorized.

Dockery emphasized that while the release of names will be delayed, technical and master sergeant promotees will begin sewing on their new chevrons Aug. 1 as scheduled.



ACTION LINE

536-2222



The COMMANDER'S ACTION LINE is your opportunity to make Brooks a better place to live, work and play.

If you have a suggestion for improvement, a complaint or a problem that you have not been able to resolve through normal complaint channels or the chain of command, call the COMMANDER'S ACTION LINE, 536-2222.

Only items of general interest will be published, so please leave your name and number for a personal response.

The base agencies listed below can be contacted directly:

311th Security Forces Squadron.....	536-3310
SFS after duty hours.....	536-2851
311th Civil Engineer Squadron.....	536-3861
311th Communications Squadron.....	536-6571
311th Air Base Group Logistics Division.....	536-3541
Safety.....	536-2111
Housing Maintenance.....	536-7000
Housing Office.....	536-1840
311th Services Division.....	536-2545
311th Medical Squadron (Clinic).....	536-4715
Military Personnel.....	536-1845
Civilian Personnel.....	536-3353
Military Pay.....	536-1851
Civilian Pay.....	536-2823
I.G. (FWA).....	536-2358
Military Equal Opportunity.....	536-2584
EEO Complaints.....	536-3702
Base Exchange.....	533-9161
Commissary.....	536-3549
Brooks City Base Project Office.....	536-6626

BAS policy for dorm residents

Q

I'm calling in reference to a rumor that all Security Force's personnel living in the dormitory will be issued meal cards. Is this true? If so, it will be impossible unless we have a chow hall open at night. I wanted to address the issue and get more information.

A

In conjunction with new Air Force BAS policy and a previously required annual review of BAS recipients, dorm residents receiving BAS will have their status reviewed to verify they should still receive full BAS or be assigned to ESM. The new policy states a member must miss more than 20 percent of their meals for up to 7 months to be removed from ESM. In the past dorm residents were given BAS due to shift work. This alone is not enough to authorize removal from ESM. A shift worker can get a meal outside of their shift and claim the meals due to mission requirements. Missed meals cannot be claimed on off-duty or leave-days. Requests for missed meals should be submitted monthly through squadron commanders. We will distribute information during your commander's calls so you'll know how to claim the missed meals. New claims for BAS will be reviewed by Finance, Air Base Group Commander and submitted to the 311th Human Systems Wing Commander for final approval. Questions can be addressed to customer service at 536-5778. It is not my intent to arbitrarily or automatically remove BAS from anyone. The new AFI, however, does mandate review and more complete justification. Appeal through me is always available. I ask that the member and their commander understand the AFI and make the case in accordance with current standards.

Q

I recently completed the NCO Academy at Lackland AFB. Halfway through the course I was told I would not get per diem, although my orders stated I would. Within the first couple days students also receive a letter indicating no government messing is available. I've contacted finance, the command chief and Lackland personnel and learned this is nothing new. I found this is a recurring item for Brooks personnel. I even found the Joint Federal Travel Regulation they're using to quote that we don't get per diem. It reads that a member is not entitled to per diem for TDY performed within local area outside the limits of PDS as defined. My orders directed me to "reside in Lackland billeting for duration of course," and I did, so I should be entitled to per diem just like anybody from out of town. I would appreciate assistance on this.

A

I apologize for any misunderstanding about entitlements for ALS and the NCO Academy. According to the Joint Federal Travel Regulation, Lackland and Brooks are in the local area of the permanent duty station. The PDS is the base and the city limits in which it sits. If a member is directed to perform duty at a location within the limits of the PDS, per diem is not authorized. Brooks members attending the NCO Academy are reimbursed lodging and mileage to Lackland AFB as well as dry cleaning expenses up to \$14 per week. The direction to reside in lodging does not entitle you to per diem if the TDY is within your PDS. Finance, the Military Personnel Flight and the Education Office will develop a statement for inclusion on orders stating that per diem is not an entitlement in this case to avoid future problems.



Brooks legend Garbich passes away at 89

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

The scientific community and literary world mourned the loss of Frank Verdi Garbich who passed away May 17 at the age of 89. He was buried at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery with full military honors.

Garbich, who headed the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine machine shop for decades, was a true 'Renaissance man' for his collective body of work that ranged from fabricating numerous prototype devices supporting NASA's early space program to authoring many articles, as well as two books.

"He worked on the Manhattan Project," said friend and colleague Henry Whitmore, referring to America's development of the Atomic Bomb during World War II. Whitmore, an inventor in his own right holds numerous patents, said the eccentric Garbich had an encyclopedic memory and was one of the most knowledgeable individuals he had ever known.

"He understood scientific theories completely," Whitmore said, noting that once a concept was conveyed to him, Garbich would then turn the idea into a precision, workable instrument or device.

"He was a perfectionist," recalled retired Dr. (Col.) William Sears who worked with Garbich from 1951-1955 when the School of Aviation Medicine was located at Randolph Air Force Base. Sears, a physiologist who is former chief of USAFSAM's Crew Technology Division, said Garbich was a brilliant

innovator. One of the devices he helped develop was a portable iron lung used to transport polio patients worldwide. "He used a Eureka vacuum cleaner motor attached to the back of it," said Sears about Garbich's unique method of powering the iron lung. This first-of-its-kind portable device was used by the Brooks-based Military Air Transport Command to transport polio victims aboard military cargo aircraft during the height of the polio epidemic in the early 1950s.

The son of Russian immigrants, Garbich was born New Year's Day in 1913 aboard the ship "Verdi" enroute from Argentina to the United States. His parents gave him the middle name Verdi in honor of his seaborne birthplace. After graduating from Connecticut High School and General Electric apprentice school, Garbich enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps in 1942. Following a tour in Panama, Garbich left active duty to pursue a civil service career as a master machinist.

"He built the actual space capsule for the monkey 'Miss SAM,'" recalls former "Operation Paper Clip" German engineer Roland Dornes who worked with Garbich in Bldg. 130's fabrication shop. "Miss SAM" was the second Rhesus monkey to venture into space during Project Mercury.

"He was also a compiler of formulas for weights and measures," Dornes said, noting that Garbich published them in a technical book. Whitmore said Garbich was a good writer, historian and a member of the San Antonio Conservation Society since 1942.

Garbich authored *The Decline and Rise of Con-*



Photo courtesy of Ray Denison

Frank Garbich holds verification of his veteran's benefits, secured with the help of the Brooks Retiree Activity Office.

federate Currency, a published manuscript that is part of The Alamo Library collection. "He was quite an historian," Whitmore said. "He lived in a downtown hotel near the bus terminal. He once told the clerk that General Lee wore a size six shoe, to which the clerk replied, 'Did you know him personally?'"

Known as "Uncle Frank" to his friends, Garbich retired from Brooks around 1963-1964.

The Brooks Retiree Activity Office assisted Garbich in the months preceding his death by helping him verify his military service, making him eligible for burial in a national cemetery.

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Brooks' SERE teams safety surpasses 'gold standards'



Photo by Dale Eckroth

By Rita Boland
Discovery Staff Writer

The bodies hurtled toward the ground and certain death at speeds exceeding 120 miles-per-hour when suddenly they are ripped back upward by the release of their parachutes. Instead of becoming people pancakes, or large holes in the ground, the men gently regain contact with the earth, smiling with the exhilaration of adrenaline and the relief of safety.

"I can't believe I get paid to do this," Tech. Sgt. Tim Kapp said.

Kapp and his colleagues from the Survival Evasion Resistance Escape school conduct upgrade, proficiency and demonstration training on static line and free fall parachutes at least once, and sometimes twice, a month.

The training and dedication to safety earned the program an "Outstanding," the highest score possible,



during the March inspection of Air Force jump schools. Brooks' rating surpassed that of Edwards Air Force Base, Ca., the gold standard for jumping in AFMC.

"The detail that everyone pays (to safety), whether it's on paperwork or parachutes, gets you a good rating, but it's also very safe," Master Sgt. JT McHan said. McHan has been with the SERE program for 18 years.

The instructors in the SERE program pay so much attention to safety, that on the written part of the inspection, called the Master Question File Test, which tests knowledge of emergency procedures, no one scored less than 100 percent.

The inspection came with less than a week's notice and the SERE instructors were out in the field until the day of the inspection.

The SERE program is committed to safety above all things.

"There has never been an accident while I've been here," McHan said, knocking on a wood table.

The men spend hours doing ground training and running through the guidelines for safety if a parachute landing goes awry and the parachutist finds himself near water, electrical wire or buildings.

The day of a jump, the men have a ground briefing, reviewing safety guidelines again and practicing their movements. After putting on the chutes, everyone goes through the Jump Master Inspection.

The Jump Masters are experienced parachutists who inspect the others to ensure the equipment is on properly.

The Jump Masters also drop streamers from the plane before the jump to test wind and location, and give the signal to jump from within the plane.

Tech. Sgt. David Anderson and Kapp are the Jump Masters for the Brooks SERE program. Anderson received "Outstanding Performer" during the recent AFMC inspection and also received an "Outstanding" rating during his last check ride in Oct. of 2000.

"Kapp is an outstanding Jump Master," McHan said. "If Kapp throws them, they'll land on the (target spot)."

Staff Sgt. Dave Howse is being trained as a Jump Master.

Another safety precaution taken by the jumpers is the careful monitoring of the weather. The ideal weather is no clouds with a light breeze. If the people on board the plane can't see

from underneath the plane to the target, everyone stays on board. Jumps are scratched if the winds at ground level exceed 13 knots for a round parachute and 17 knots for a square parachute. They are also canceled if the variation in wind gusts exceed more than 10 knots.

Static line jumpers leap from about 2,000 feet and free fall jumpers can reach altitudes of 12,500 feet.

"It's an adrenaline rush," Tech. Sgt. MT Elliot said.

"There's nothing like it."

The SERE jumpers, along with others who accompany them at times, like physiologists from the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine, are fun, happy guys once all the procedures have been followed. After all the practices and checks they laugh and joke together. I

If it weren't for the uniforms and lack of hair, a bystander might mistake them for a group of friends out for a good time who follow rigid safety precautions.

"It's not your average kind of job," Kapp said. "You're not behind a desk. It's an adventurous job."

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NEWS briefs

Enlisted promotion ceremony

The Brooks enlisted promotion ceremony is scheduled for May 31 at 3 p.m. in the Brooks Club. All enlisted promotees will be recognized for their promotion to the next higher grade for the months of May and June.

Come out and support the newest promotees.

Water Safety Olympics 2002

As summer approaches, water safety becomes a important topic in south Texas.

In an effort to promote water safety awareness, the American Red Cross and Sea World San Antonio will sponsor the Water Safety Olympics at Sea World June 1 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. for local media members. The public is invited to watch the competition and cheer on their favorite, DJ, news anchor or newspaper reporter while learning valuable information about water safety.

Among Americans ages 1-24, drowning is the second leading cause of death from unintentional injury, and nearly 25 percent of those deaths occur in children less than 15 years old.

Volunteers needed

The Brooks Clinic is looking for a few good volunteers for the reception desk.

Knowledge of medical records, computers and experience in customer service is a plus. Training is available.

The reception desk responsibilities include greeting patients, scheduling appointments, pulling medical records, checking in patients for appointments, including paperwork, answering phones, and directing calls and smiling.

Call Capt. Rebekah Friday at 536-6984 or Tech. Sgt. Rene Flores at 536-8533 for information.

Voting assistance website

The Federal Voting Assistance Program announced the

inauguration of its alternate web site at: www.fvap.gov.

This new web site is in addition to the current site at: www.fvap.ncr.gov.

The two web sites are expected to provide access to voting information for all citizens, regardless of location.

The FVAP can also be contacted by telephone through the Department of Defense voting information center. The toll-free number is listed on the website. Additionally, the program is accessible via email at: vote@fvap.ncr.gov.

Altitude test subjects

Scientists at Brooks need a number of volunteer subjects to participate in hypobaric (altitude) chamber research projects.

Air Force aircrew members who are interested and meet the qualifications will earn approximately \$150 per month for participating in one session per month.

Volunteers must meet Air Force body fat, height/weight standards, be a non-smoker for at least two years, be between 20-45 years old, and able to pass an appropriate physical exam.

Contact Jim Carlile at 536-3546 or Heather Alexander at 536-3440 for more information.

TRICARE adds Walgreens to pharmacy network

If you are eligible for TRICARE, you can now fill prescriptions at Walgreens by presenting a military identification card, or TRICARE Prime card and paying the copayment.

Pharmacy copayments are \$3 for generic medications and \$9 for brand name medications for a 30-day supply.

Active Duty Service Members do not pay copayments for prescriptions at retail network pharmacies.

A list of network pharmacy locations is available online at: www.hnfs.net.

For more information on TRICARE pharmacy benefits, contact the TRICARE Service Center at 800-406-2832.



AFIERA contractor cheats death again, helped by colleagues

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

It scared the proverbial 'living daylights' out of Dynise Day when her mobile home lights went out as two tornadoes touched down in her neighborhood. The power outage foreshadowed yet another nightmarish episode for a woman whose knack for surviving life-threatening experiences mimics the fictional belief that cats have nine lives.

Her reward for surviving nature's wrath was losing nearly everything she owned.

Ironically, the lack of safety that this Proxtronics, Inc. contractor endured within her turbulent environment in Atascosa, Texas, March 10, is the antithesis of the name of a Brooks organization that she supports and whose members donated money for her recovery.

Recently, Air Force Institute for Environment, Safety and Occupational Health Risk Analysis workers presented Day with a check and cash totaling more than \$1,400 that was collected through fundraising events.

"We helped one of our own," said Master Sgt. Aaron Sinclair who organized the campaign for donations that included 20 gallons of cooked beans provided by The Curve Restaurant, that were consumed during a morale barbecue luncheon. Among AFIERA volunteers who pitched in to help raise money was Anita Price who peeled 60 pounds of potatoes that she made into potato salad.

"I appreciate it so much. I now know how many friends I have," Day told an AFIERA gathering in Bldg. 140 where she works.

Proxtronics co-workers also donated \$700 to Day, whose harrowing story of survival was the latest chap-

ter in a life besieged by misfortune.

Exactly two years before her bout with tornadoes, Day 'died' twice in a San Antonio hospital.

"In March 2000, the pneumonia I had led to fluid on my lungs which taxed my heart. I suffered congestive heart failure. The doctors had to bring me back from death twice," recalls the 41-year-old Corpus Christi, Texas, native.

That heart-stopping moment pales in comparison to experiencing a tornado's fury that propelled Day and her mobile home skyward with "Wizard of Oz-like" efficiency.

"Baseball-sized hail broke all of the windows in my home. Then the lights went out. It was pitch black. Water started pouring down on me in my living room. What scared me (most) was when the floor boards started to come up," she said.

She did not initially know her trailer had been lifted off its cement block foundation and deposited several feet from its original location. After crawling out of her home, she was immediately confronted with the daunting task of getting to her car safely through high winds and blinding rain. She also had to worry about flying debris, including Day's trailer that had collided with her car.

"I don't know how I got into my car," she admits.

Her thoughts then turned to rescuing her sister Dorothy's family who lived next door.

"I was scared and praying a lot. I honked my car horn and flashed my high beams. I was trying to get my sister and her children to go with me, but they were afraid my compact car would be lifted into the sky. They wouldn't leave their house."

Petrified by the dire situation and unable to open her car doors because



Photo by Rudy Purificato

Lt. Col William Huff, Drug Lab commander presents Dynise Day with a check, part of the \$1,400 members of the Air Force Institute for Environment, Safety and Occupational Health Risk Analysis contributed. The money was collected through fund raisers and donations by Day's co-workers.

of the winds, Day lunched her vehicle over downed power lines. She eventually made it to Interstate 35.

"I didn't stop until I reached the Somerset exit. I went to my friend Julie's house. I was white as a sheet of paper and could not talk," Day said.

Back at the disaster site, the twin tornadoes had ripped the roof off her sister's home and caused widespread damage. Fortunately, nobody in her subdivision was injured.

Following the storm, Day returned home to see if she could salvage her belongings. "I lost everything. I didn't have insurance," she lamented.

Gone were irreplaceable treasures such as a scrapbook of "Star Trek" actor signatures, including that of the late DeForest Kelly who played "Bones" on the original TV series. More sobering was the loss of home office documents including income tax, savings

and checking account records.

"I never experienced this before. No more mobile homes for me," she confessed.

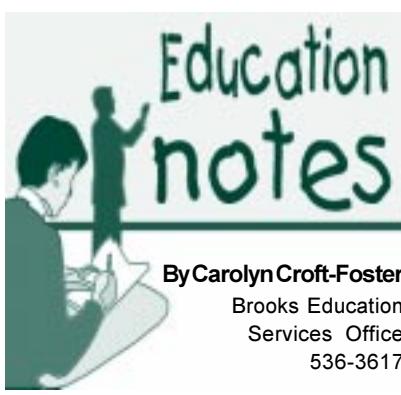
Day has since moved to San Antonio, closer to friends and colleagues who helped return some normalcy to her life.

"I was so surprised by their generosity. It is incredible how they helped me."

While she hasn't admitted to being superstitious, Day now appreciates that ancient warning "Beware the Ides of March."

For all of her near-death experiences have occurred in a month that historically "comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb."

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By Carolyn Croft-Foster
Brooks Education Services Office
536-3617

TASP-placement exam

Alamo Community College District offers the TASP exam and a placement exam at Brooks June 11 at 1:30 p.m.

Texas state law requires all students comply with the TASP exam or one of the exemptions.

Students need to meet with the ACCD representative on a Tuesday morning to discuss eligibility for exemptions.

To schedule an appointment call 536-3617.

AWC/ACSC non-resident seminars

Recruitment is beginning for the Air War College and the Air Command and Staff College non-resident seminars.

AWC enrollment is open to lieutenant colonel selects and above and GS-13s and above.

Registration forms are available on the AWC homepage at: www.au.af.mil/au/awc and should be brought to Education Services for processing.

Seminars are expected to begin at the end of July.

ACSC enrollment is open to major selects, and above and GS-11s, and above. Registration forms are available at the Education Services customer service desk.

For more information visit Education Services in Bldg. 558 or call 536-3617.

On-base registration

Registration is underway for Palo Alto College On-Base classes. Classes begin June 3 and end July 9. The courses at Brooks include: Speech, Literature and Sociology. All on-base courses are applicable to the Community College of the Air Force as general education courses.

For information or to schedule an appointment, call 536-3617.

Webster University

Webster University offers master's-level courses at Brooks this summer. Classes began May 25 and end July 26.

The courses offered include: Procurement and Acquisition Management, Integrated Studies, Counseling Learning Practicum, Psychopathology, and Organizational Development.

Call 536-3617 to schedule an appointment.

Balance for your future, U.S. Savings Bonds

Recent economic times have resembled a roller coaster — ups-and-downs, twists and turns have marked the past several years. We've lived the dot-com bubble, when riches seemed just a stock investment away, the dot-com bust, when reality reasserted itself, and the recent recession, when it seemed impossible to know the best place to get a good return on investment — a place to feel safe. Through it all, one thing seems clear, if you expect a good retirement, continue to save and invest, and a balanced portfolio will protect you from the worst of the gyrations.

Millions of savers and investors have rediscovered the value of an old standby, United States Savings Bonds. They may not be an exciting investment, but they are a steady performer that won't lose money.

Whether you choose Series EE or Series I Bonds, returns are comparable to, or better than, the returns available on other savings instruments. Savings Bonds add balance to an existing portfolio, and are a way to start saving and build capital until you have enough to diversify.

The two types of Savings Bonds offer consumers a choice. The Series EE is sold at half of face value and earns interest at 90 percent of the average return on five-year marketable Treasury securities, with rates adjusted semiannually to track the marketplace.

The Series I is indexed to inflation, earning a two part return, a rate fixed for the life of the bond, two percent through April 2002, plus the rate of inflation, again adjusted semiannually to track changes in the consumer price index.

Both come in denominations ranging from \$50 to \$10,000, both are tax advantaged with interest exempt from state or local income taxes and Federal tax deferred until redemption or final maturity.

Both are guaranteed safe by the full faith and credit of the United States.

For savers and investors who may have to tap their resources, bonds offer easy redemption at most financial institutions after they've been held for six months. There are no restrictions on redemption, no capital gains to report, and only a small interest penalty if the bonds are redeemed within five years.

Savings Bonds currently earn better returns than passbook or money market accounts and short-term CDs. Their purchase flexibility, tax advantages, safety and increase in value beyond inflation offer a great way to save or invest regardless of income or other resources.

There are many ways to buy bonds. Thousands of employers offer a convenient payroll savings plan. Bonds can also be purchased at financial institutions, or by automatically debiting your savings or checking account using the Savings Bonds EasySaver Plan, or even over the internet by visiting the website at: www.savingsbonds.gov. The same site offers extensive information and resources helpful to bond-buyers and owners.

This year's campaign theme is "Save for your Future" and runs from June 1 through 24. Contact your unit's US Savings Bond Representative, 1st Lt. Paul Escobedo at 536-8109, or 2nd Lt. Benjamin Sherrill 536-2359 for more information.



BROOKS

SPOTLIGHT

Things to do around Brooks

By Jan McMahon
Brooks Services Marketing Office
536-5475

Aquatic Facility

Bldg. 710, 536-3744

School is out and thoughts turn to ways to spend the summer. Purchase a season pass to the pool and enjoy the hot Texas afternoons swimming.

Pool hours of operation are: Monday-Thursday for adult lap swim 11a.m. - 1 p.m. and open swim 1-7 p.m.; Friday for adult lap swim 11a.m. - 1 p.m. and open swim 1-6 p.m. The pool is open 1-6 p.m. for open swimming Saturday, Sunday and holidays. The daily user fee is \$2, or season passes may be purchased for \$10 each, with a maximum fee of 50 cents per family.

Pool parties can be scheduled for birthdays, promotions, or get-togethers

through the lead lifeguard or by calling the pool.

The Youth Center offers swim lessons for toddlers, beginners, advanced beginners and intermediates.

Call the staff at 536-2515 for more details.

2002 Air Force Club Membership Scholarship Program

Current club members and their families who are accepted by or are enrolled in an accredited college or university for the fall 2002, either as a full or part-time student, are eligible to apply for the Air Force Club Membership Scholarship Program.

First, second and third place awards in the amount of \$5,000, \$3,000 and \$2,000 are awarded to the winners of the "Air Force Clubs—How to continue the tradition," essay contest.

A 500-word or less essay is due by July 15 to Vida Marsh, Services marketing director, in Bldg. 1154.

Call 536-8057 for entry forms and details.

Outdoor Recreation

Bldg. 1154, 536-2881

Brooks Outdoor recreation has one-day and season passes for Sea World, Fiesta Texas and Ripley's Believe it or Not.

Fiesta Texas one-day tickets are \$23 for adults and \$21.50 for children. A Fiesta Texas season pass is \$49.99 for a limited time with purchase of a parking pass for \$20. The park offers rides such as Poltergeist, a twisting, spiraling coaster, Superman Krypton Coaster, the largest steel and floorless coaster in the southwest and Scream, a 200-foot turbo drop.

There is a free waterpark with 12 cool aquatic adventures, and a variety of musical shows are offered each day. End your visit to the park by watching the spectacular fireworks and laser show.

Sea World of Texas tickets are \$31.50 for an adult one-day pass and \$24 for a child's one-day pass. Guests can touch and feed dolphins, count the teeth on a shark and 'chill out' at the Lost Lagoon. Just try to stay dry when the world famous Shamu comes a-splashing.

Brave the dives and climbs of the Steel Eel or the twists of The Great White roller coasters. Get ready to get wet on the fast and furious Rio Lobo.

Adults can visit Ripley's Believe it or Not for \$9 and children for \$8.

Ask for the latest special as the amusement parks are continuously offering short-term specials.

Ripley's features more than 500 original exhibits from Robert Ripley's oddities and curiosities from around the world. Also featured is the gallery "Galveston 1900: Hurricane Disaster."

Sidney's

Bldg. 714, 536-2077

Family Fun Nite starts June 4 at Sidney's. Bring the family and enjoy the Pasta Bar and Pizza every Tuesday from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Prices are \$3 for adults, \$2 for children 2-10 years old, and children under age 2 eat free.

Children can watch the Cartoon Network while Mom and Dad enjoy dinner so make plans to stop by.

Matinee movies are now shown every Saturday at 1 p.m. All movies are G-rated and are shown on the big screen television. All family members are encouraged to attend.



Feature



Cosper

Q&A

FULL NAME:
Linda Catherine Cosper

DUTY TITLE, ORGANIZATION:
Secretary, Air Force Institute for Environment, Safety and Occupational Health Risk Analysis

WHAT IS MY JOB?
I work in the front office for the deputy director, (although Col. Russell says she works for me), the Chief and First Shirt, and I supervise our student aide.

BIRTHDAY:
July 23, 19

HOMETOWN:
San Antonio. I was born in Germany, but I moved seven times by the time I was eight. I've lived here since Dad was stationed at Fort Sam Houston in 1963.

FAMILY STATUS:
Married, two children.

NICKNAME I CALL MYSELF:
None, but coworkers call me Mom.

MOTTO:
I've always liked, "If you see someone without a smile, give them yours."

INSPIRATIONS:
My family; especially my husband Ron.

HOBBIES:
Antiquing, attending craft shows, reading for pleasure and not doing housework.

PET PEEVE:
People saying, "That's not my job."

BOOK(S) AT BEDSIDE:
Usually a book by Nora Roberts or a good mystery.

I JOINED CIVIL SERVICE BECAUSE:
My in-laws encouraged me to get in because of the benefits.

FIVE-YEAR GOAL:
To keep working here at Brooks but I don't know what my future holds; and to have my son graduate from SWT.

ULTIMATE GOAL:
Right now it's to get through my daughter's wedding, which is June 8.

IF I WON THE LOTTERY I'D:
Help out family with bills, and go on a great vacation, and not worry about bills because there won't be any.

MY GREATEST ACCOMPLISHMENT:
Being able to be there for my kids when they were growing up, and now.

MY MOST PRIZED POSSESSION:
I don't really have anything of material value, but I do value my health.

Brooks Personality PROFILE

Smile and the whole world smiles with you

By Rita Boland

Discovery Staff Writer

Some people change the world in grand fashion with war, speeches or protest. Some people change the world one person at a time.

Linda Cosper is one of the latter.

However, her contribution is no less important or impacting. Brightening up just one person's day, and starting a chain reaction, is the subject of books, songs and poems. It's also the way Cosper lives her life.

"I love helping people," she said. "You can't just let them slide by. I find that people do want to be a part of something—you just have to ask."

Kind, professional, elegant, humble, animated and gregarious, Cosper is reluctant to talk about herself, but eager to share the happy and positive stories about her friends and family.

Cosper spent the morning before her interview driving to the apartment of an 85-year-old lady friend she had worked with at the Brooks clinic then driving her to an ophthalmology appointment at Wilford Hall Medical Center. The appointment lasted more than an hour. She then took her to lunch and dropped her off at home before returning to work. All this information came as a necessary side note to the story of the lady's volunteer work at the clinic and the upcoming changes in her life, like moving in with her daughter.

"I don't like to talk about myself," Cosper said. "I'd rather talk about other people."

Those words are uttered by many, but lived by few. Answering questions designed to give insight about her, Cosper told stories about her father being awarded the Silver Star during Vietnam and her stepmother hiding almost \$12,000 in a cap on a hat rack—she didn't believe in banks!.

"When we took the money to the bank, they wanted to know where we got the money," Cosper said. "When you walk in with that much (cash) they think it's drug money or something—had to convince them otherwise."

Cosper grew up an Army brat, living in several parts of the world before her family settled in San Antonio and Fort Sam Houston. When her father left for Vietnam, she moved off base and into the civilian world for the first time.

"I just figured everyone had Army furniture," Cosper said, laughing. "I thought every mom stayed at home, and moving every other year was a way of life."

After adjusting to the surprises, Cosper settled into the civilian world and graduated from Roosevelt High School.

"My husband called me a 'city



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Pedro Ybanez

slicker" because I grew up on the North side of town," she said.

The "city slicker" now lives on a mini-farm south of the city where she has three dogs, five cats, chickens, guineas (a type of bird that Cosper claims are good "watchdogs") and two pot-bellied pigs.

"As long as (the pigs) get their evening meal, life is good!" Cosper said.

When her two children were in high school, they both participated in 4H and the Copers also raised lambs and rabbits.

"It's a menagerie," Cosper said.

Her daughter, a graduate of Texas A&M University, now lives in Dallas and will be married on June 8. Her son attends Southwest Texas State University and is studying to be an athletic trainer. While in high school, her son had the opportunity to work with the athletic trainers for the San Antonio Spurs on career day.

"The Spurs organization was wonderful to him," Cosper said. "He received a Spurs official shirt and got to be involved in their training sessions. Then if that was not enough, he was invited to attend the game that night and sit with the Spurs players-awesome!"

Cosper's husband works at Holt Cat who arranged the chance with his boss, and Spurs owner, Peter Holt.

Despite Cosper's assimilation into civilian life, and her San Antonio connections, she has never lost her ap-

preciation of the military.

"You really get close to people being in the military," she said. "It's like a big family. I love being a part of the military workforce—I think that's what keeps me here."

After graduating San Antonio College, she was employed by Southwest Bell Telephone Company for six years. After having her son, she "played mommy" for six years and never regrets the time she spent with her children. Cosper then started her civil service career at Ft. Sam before being promoted to the clinic at Brooks. She was then promoted to the Air Force Institute for Environment, Safety and Occupational Health Risk Analysis (AFIERA).

When she interviewed for the job at the Brooks clinic, she didn't worry about obtaining the position because she enjoyed her job at Ft. Sam and wouldn't mind staying since she used to live there when her dad was stationed there.

Working in the front office of AFIERA, you get to meet and greet a lot of interesting people—from new employees to city officials," Cosper said.

People who are fortunate to get to visit AFIERA and meet Cosper, who will smile and help, and if she gets to spend enough time with them, will share their story and what they do that makes them incredible people.



By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

To Chief Master Sgt. Richard Hollins, it made a lot of "horse sense" to provide fellow Indian War period re-enactors with basic training that U.S. Army cavalry troops were routinely exposed to nearly a century ago.

"I came up with the idea about four weeks ago. I developed the training plan with (Jennifer) Carlisle," said Hollins in referring to horsemanship training conducted at the Fort Sam Houston Stables earlier this month.

Carlisle, a FSH Stables staff member, was chief trainer for about 20 members of the 9th Cavalry, San Antonio Buffalo Soldiers Association. The training was prompted by Hollins' desire to bolster the credibility of the group he has been a member of since April 2001.

The U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine enlisted manager's suggestion to conduct the first horsemanship training in the reenactment group's history was enthusiastically accepted by its members who pride themselves in promoting Buffalo Soldier heritage.

"The horse was a mainstay of everything that they did," explains Hollins, who is the reenactment group's regimental quartermaster and vice president. He admits, "Some riders (members) had various levels of experience on a horse. Some of them had never been on a horse before."

The orientation training was similar to that provided to former slaves, freedmen and African-American Civil War veterans who comprised the



USAFSAM's Chief Master Sgt. Richard Hollins (left) receives instructions from Wilkerson during a mounted drill for the San Antonio Buffalo Soldiers Association held recently at Fort Sam Houston Stables.

Leonard Wilkerson, a U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine retiree, leads fellow San Antonio Buffalo Soldiers members during a riding exercise.

9th and 10th U.S. Cavalry Regiments during the late 19th and early 20th Century. Together with the 24th and 25th Infantry Regiments, they were collectively known as 'Buffalo Soldiers,' a name bestowed upon them by Native American tribes who revered the buffalo for its courage.

Hollins said that fellow members needed to be familiar with horsemanship skills, duties and responsibilities if their group is to accurately portray Buffalo Soldier heritage. Before the training, members were limited to staging static display encampments.

During their horsemanship orientation the group learned about tacking, that included horse-saddling procedures; equestrian health and veterinary medical care; mounting and dismounting procedures; reigning techniques; and information mounted drills.

"As a team we have to get to a comfort level for our next phase which will be a trail ride," Hollins said. Ultimately, the group's monthly horsemanship drills will result in the proficiency they'll need to fulfill their long-range goal of participating in parades and staging battle reenactments.

Hollins, who exudes unbridled passion for the Buffalo Soldier legacy, began riding horses as a 6-year-old living in Mississippi.

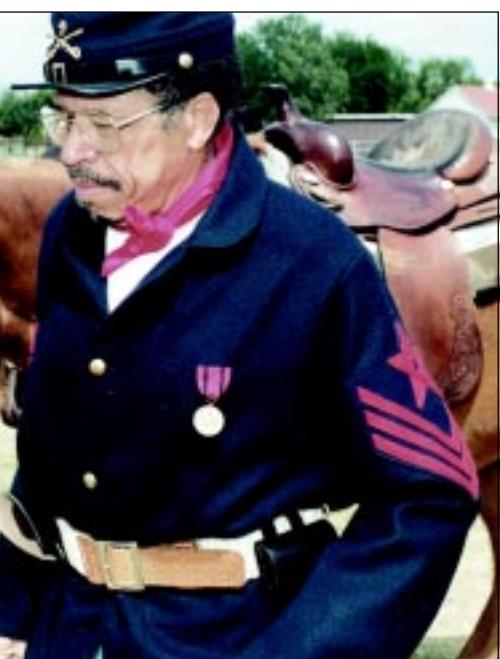


Wilkerson, founder of the San Antonio Buffalo Soldiers Association, leads fellow members to the Fort Sam Houston Corral for mounted drills.

"It's in my blood," he said of his love for horses. He became interested in Buffalo Soldier heritage about six years ago while stationed at Hurlburt Field, Fla. "I started studying the book Buffalo Soldier written by Dr. William H. Leckie. They did not have a Buffalo Soldier Association at Hurlburt Field. When I was reassigned to Brooks, Leonard (Wilkerson with USAFSAM) recruited me."

Studying and promoting Buffalo Soldier history is part of Hollins's personal journey in understanding his predecessors. "I would not have had the

USAFSAM's 'Buffalo Soldier' leads charge in cavalry training



opportunity to become a chief master sergeant in the U.S. Air Force if it wasn't for those who came before me."

He explained that not all Buffalo Soldiers were former Union Civil War veterans. "Some of them fought on the Confederate side. Becoming Buffalo Soldiers was an opportunity for them to make a statement that they were (truly) men instead of property."

Timing for the horsemanship training could not have been better. The group's next public event will be June 14 as participants in the San Antonio Parks and Recreation Department's Juneteenth celebration at Comanche Park.

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“I would not have had the opportunity to become a chief master sergeant in the U.S. Air Force if it wasn't for those who came before me.

”

Chief Master Sgt. Richard Hollins
U.S. Air Force School
of Aerospace Medicine



AFMC commander expects summer safety to be everyone's business

By Gen. Lester Lyles

AFMC Commander

The Air Force campaign to reduce accidents and fatalities during the summer months is known as the "101 Critical Days of Summer."

With winter weather just a vague memory at most of our Air Force Materiel Command installations, it may be difficult to start planning for springtime or summer recreation.

One may think summer is far away; however, it is time that everyone of us, regardless of rank, age or position, should begin thinking of ways to ensure we are prepared to move into this period of increased outdoor activity as safely as we can.

Most all of us look forward to once again getting outside, and it is no surprise that, statistically spring brings an increase in outdoor recreation mishaps.

We need to ensure no one in our AFMC family is exposed to undue risks. I expect everyone to work toward reducing unacceptable increase in our off duty private motor vehicle accidents and related fatalities.

I expect each of you to focus on preventing mishaps in the following high-

risk areas:

- Personal Motor Vehicle safety
- Alcohol use/abuse
- Motorcycle/All-Terrain Vehicle riding

- Water sports

- Proper conditioning and training

In the first six months of fiscal 02, the Air Force experienced 40 vehicle fatalities. Excessive speed, lack of seat belt use and alcohol were significant factors in too many of these fatalities.

As the weather becomes more suitable for motorcycle/ATV riding, we all need to be reminded to take the time to bring our skills back to our pre-winter level. We must remind motorcycle riders that people driving 4-wheeled vehicles have lost their "motorcycle awareness" as well.

We must ensure our family is not only told of the importance of seatbelts, life preservers, helmets, child seats and other protective equipment; but we must also demonstrate this fact by using this equipment every time.

Saving lives and reducing injuries is everyone's responsibility and we all stand to gain by doing this.

I ask each of you to stop, take a step back and reflect on how we conduct ourselves as we go about our

daily routines.

Before you and your workers start any task—on or off duty—everyone needs to ask these questions: Are you applying sound risk management to planned actions? Are you and your workers avoiding unwise shortcuts? Are you and your workers in peak condition and getting adequate rest? Are you, your supervisors and commanders watching each other for signs of fatigue, stress or distraction?

Everyone must do their part in saving lives and reducing mishaps. Your decisions and actions will help keep our AFMC family safe and operationally effective.

I encourage each of you to use the Operational Risk Management process as a tool to limit the multifaceted hazards associated with spring and summer activities.

Each member of our force is a valuable resource in our continuing war against our nation's enemies.

Our nation needs us, our families need us and I need each of you to meet our nation's daunting and expanding challenges. We must meet each challenge in the safest way possible.

Bottom line: Safety is everyone's business.

Death toll rises with temperatures in Texas

According to the American Red Cross, heat-related injuries are one of the leading causes of illness and death during the summer months in Texas. Do you know the warning signs of a heat emergency?

Heat cramps are muscular pain and spasms usually involving the abdomen or legs. It is thought loss of water from sweating causes the cramps. Get the person to a cooler place and let them rest. Stretch the affected muscles and replenish fluids. Give a half glass of water every 15 minutes. Avoid liquids containing alcohol or caffeine.

Heat exhaustion is characterized by cool, moist pale or flushed skin, heavy sweating, nausea or vomiting, and dizziness and exhaustion. Get the person out of the heat. Remove tight clothing and apply cool, wet cloths. Give a half glass of cool water every 15 minutes. Let the person rest and watch for changes in their condition.

Heat stroke is a life-threatening condition marked by hot, red skin, changes in consciousness, rapid weak pulse and rapid shallow breathing. Immediately move the person to a cooler place and call 911.

Remember, heat can also affect pets. Pets need plenty of shade and clean water to avoid sunburn and dehydration.

For more safety information, contact the Red Cross at 224-5151, toll free at 800-775-6803 or visit their website at: www.saredcross.com.



Base Picnic Bash

America's Future: Our Children

June 14

11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Picnic Grounds

The Texas Chili Peppers
Noon - 3 p.m.

Ed Kadlecik & The Fun Bunch
4 - 6 p.m.

D.J. Mike
11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Hamburgers	Fruit Popsicles	Sno Cones
Chopped BBQ	Nachos	Sodas
Turkey Legs	Brisket	Beverages
Hot Dogs	Chalupas	Root Beer Floats
Taco Salad	Funnel Cakes	Face Painting
Sausage Tacos	Bottled Water	Ice Cream Bars
Lemonade/Tea		Gumbo
Frozen Non-Alcoholic Drinks		Strawberry Shortcake
Beef, Chicken Fajitas		Fries
Beef, Chicken, Shrimp Kabobs		Watermelon

Games! Games!
Toddlers - Adults
YEAR OF THE FAMILY EVENT
Contact Jan McMahon at 536-5475

Luncheon recognizes efforts of many Brooks volunteers

Nearly 30 Brooks volunteers were recognized during a luncheon May 22 at the Brooks Club. Col. Albert Burnett, 311th Human Systems Program Office commander, spoke on behalf of 311th Human Systems Wing commander Brig. Gen Lloyd Dodd.

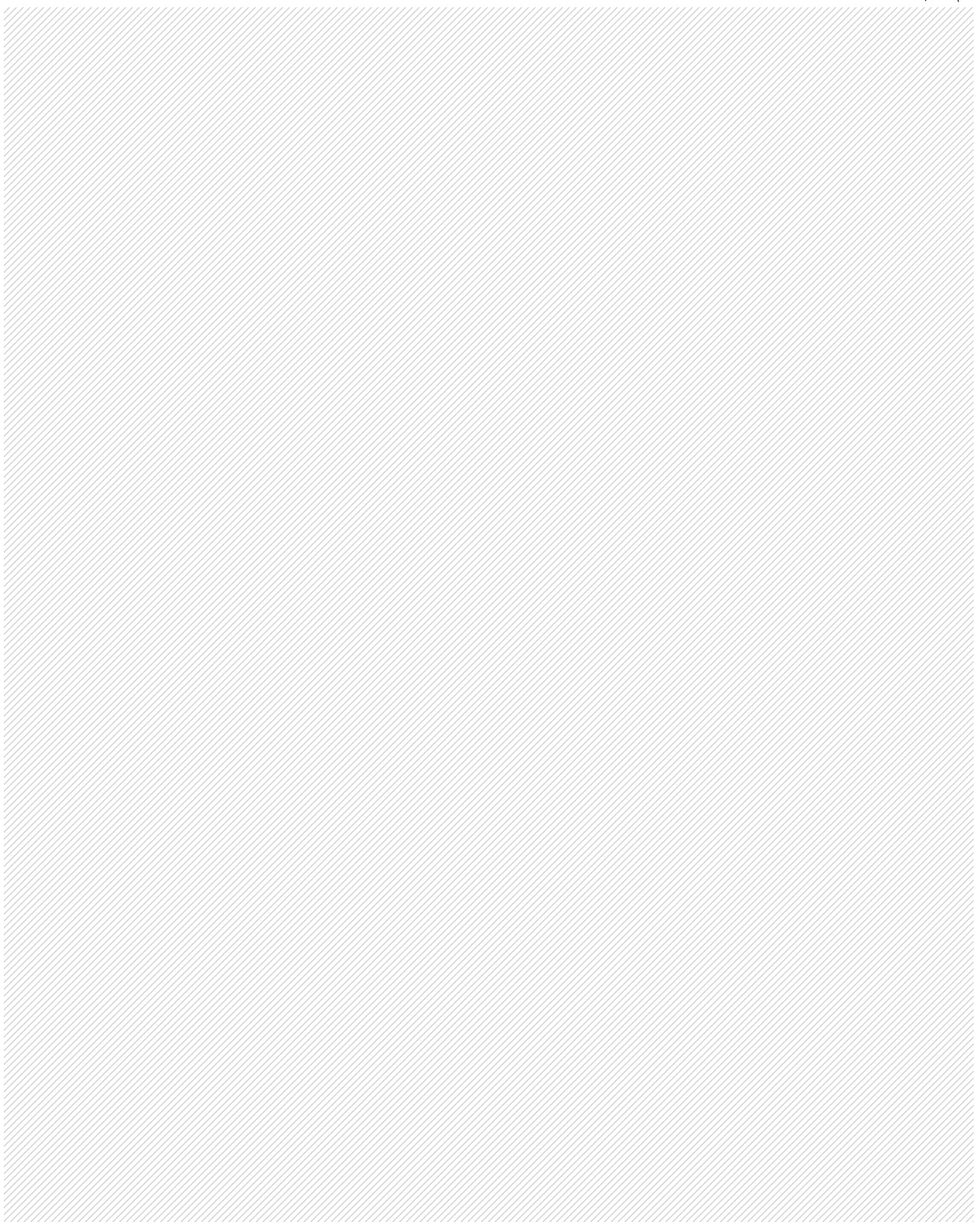
During the award ceremony Burnett thanked the volunteers for their selfless service and effort that "make this place a community and home as opposed to just a workplace."

Without the volunteers, he added, many of the programs the Brooks community enjoys wouldn't exist,

including sports programs, the Lifebuilders Series at the Base Chapel, and the Thrift Shop.

Among those recognized were Dorothy Jones, Edie Carsten and William Krebs, who have donated their time at the Brooks Clinic since 1988.

Patricia Bennett, key spouse at the 68th Information Operations Squadron, was recognized for her volunteer support, in addition to being recognized as the Noncommissioned Officer Association Spouse of the Year at a separate awards ceremony in San Antonio last week.





Know the in's and out's of traveling with TRICARE

Courtesy of Health Net Federal Services

Traditionally, summer is the time for travel. Many families take their vacations or transfer to another assignment.

Whether travel is within the United States or in a foreign country, TRICARE can help with health care needs on the road.

In the event of an emergency situation while traveling, TRICARE Prime will cover medical care.

In case of an emergency, seek immediate care at the nearest hospital emergency room, and contact your Primary Care Manager within 24 hours of treatment.

This should get the PCM involved in any follow-up that may be necessary. Also contact the Health Care Finder at 1-800-406-2832, to initiate a record of the care.

This and keeping all receipts and other documents related to the treatment will ensure proper and quick payment of the claim upon completion of travel.

An emergency, by definition, is a medical or psychiatric condition that would lead an average, non-medical person to believe that lack of immediate medical attention would threaten life, limb or sight.

Emergency care is also appropriate

to relieve severe pain or suffering.

For urgent but non-emergency conditions while traveling, contact a Health Care Finder for direction on treatment options before receiving care at a military or a civilian facility. If prior authorization for urgent care is not received from the HCF, the patient will be billed under the Point-of-Service option, resulting in higher individual cost.

It is also recommended that the primary care manager is notified that the patient has seen another physician.

Active Duty service members in travel status must contact the Military Treatment Facility to which they are assigned to get authorization to see a civilian provider for any health care other than emergency care. If care at a nearby MTF is not available, call a HCF toll free at 800-406-2832 for authorization to see a civilian provider.

Active Duty members in TRICARE Prime Remote must contact their Service Point of Contact at 888-647-6676, for medical oversight of civilian health care.

If you take prescription medication, make sure you have enough to last the entire trip. If a prescription must be filled outside of the assigned TRICARE region, the individual is responsible for full payment and can later seek reimbursement from TRICARE.

A Point Of Service charge may also apply the HCF is contacted to obtain authorization. When traveling within the assigned region, members pay only the co-payment when using a network pharmacy.

If you are taking a long vacation and want to make sure you don't run out of medicine while you are away, the National Mail-Order Pharmacy can help. You can receive a 90-day supply when you order your medications through the NMOP.

For additional information call 800-903-4680 or visit the following websites:

* www.merck-medco.com to order prescriptions online, and

* www.TRICARE.osd.mil/claimforms to download claim forms

If you are traveling and find yourself confronted with a medical situation that does not require emergency or urgent care, TRICARE may still be able to help. Information on many health care topics is available through the Health Care Information Line. The HCIL is a free, 24-hours-a-day health information line, which provides fast, easy access to health information. More than 500 recorded health topics are available through the Audio Health Library at 800-611-2875, or if necessary, speak to a nurse.

Remember that the HCF and HCIL

lines are not toll-free if dialed from outside the United States. To dial from a foreign country, you will need to know the U.S.A. direct access code for that country. To find the access code for a country you will be visiting, contact your long-distance telephone company before you leave on your trip.

Changes, both big and small, can affect your TRICARE coverage. By letting the proper people know about moves, additions to the family or changes in other health insurance, your eligibility if verified and any claims will flow smoothly through the system.

If you have a change in address or phone number, are turning 65, need to report the birth, adoption or death of a covered member, notify the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System by phone at 800-538-9552, or by email at: www.TRICARE.osd.mil/DEERS, or write to the DEERS Support Office, Attn. COA, 400 Gigling Road, Seaside, CA 93955-6771.

DEERS is used to check member eligibility and process claims.

Also, visit or call a TRICARE Service Center by calling 800-406-2832 to update changes that could affect your enrollment.

Change Request forms and travel brochures are also available online at: www.HNFS.net.



Sports



Competitors race to the finish line during the women's 100-meter dash.



Photos by Senior Master Sgt. T.C. Coaxum and Master Sgt. Brent Squires

The tug of war competition brings out the true team spirit and determination in these competitors.

YA reclaims title

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

The 311th Human Systems Program Office reclaimed the Squadron Challenge title it lost a year ago with a decisive performance during the 11-event Squadron Challenge XI held May 17.

YA scored a total of 46 points to outdistance a field of 11 organizations. The Air Force Research Laboratory finished second with a total of 34 points, an improvement over last year's third place performance. YA's archrival and defending Squadron Challenge X champion Air Force Institute for Environment, Safety and Occupational Health Risk Analysis finished with a 31 point total, barely beating out the 68th Information Operations Squadron for third place by one point.

"We had a good showing this year. We (also) had a lot of commander participation," said fitness center specialist Willie Mastin. More commanders participated this year because of a major change in the scoring format that added five points to an organization's total for commander involvement.

YA revived its dominance of Squadron Challenge on the strength of its athlete talent pool. YA not only avenged last year's humiliating defeat by AFIERA, but also ensured that no rival would win solely through participation points in all events. In 2001, AFIERA did not win any event other than karaoke to edge YA by two points. Last year, YA won most of the events, but did not participate in just one event which was all that AFIERA needed to dethrone the two-time defending champion.

This year's format, which eliminated non-athletic events such as karaoke and the rugby-like pool table game CRUD, played to the strength of YA's talented athletes. YA won four events: 100-meter dash, golf, tennis and volleyball.

"The general (Dodd) is looking at doing this again in six months," Mastin said. Years ago, Squadron Challenge was held twice a year until funding constraints limited it to an annual event.

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Squadron Challenge XI final results

Place	Unit	Points
1	YA	46
2	AFRL	34
3	AFIERA	31
4	68 IOS	30
5	ABG/SFS	26
6	PK	24
7	ABG/COM	20
8	HSW	18
9	USAMRD	17
10	ABG/MPF	16
11	ABG/FM	13
12	USAFSAM	12



It's a "spike" in the single elimination volleyball tournament.



A member of the Air Force Institute for Environment, Safety and Occupational Health Risk Analysis team goes in for a catch in the one-pitch softball game. (See additional photos on Page 21)



(Continued from Page 20)



The 4-on-4 flag football game is always popular during Squadron Challenge.



Male and female athletes compete in single elimination tennis matches.

Air Force women capture soccer crown

Brooks player named to all-tournament team

FORT EUSTIS, Va. (AFPN) — The Air Force Women's Soccer Team came through when it counted most, cruising past Army 4 to 1 to win their second straight Armed Forces Women's Soccer championship, held here May 15.

The Air Force team tied Army with an overall record of 5 and 1, but outscored the soldiers 5 to 3 in head-to-head competition.

Overall, the Air Force women outscored their opponents 28 to 3, completely shutting out both the Navy and Marine Corps teams.

After dropping its first contest with Army by a 2 to 1 score, Air Force quickly fell behind 1 to 0 in their second match. According to Air Force coach John Flynn, the Army's goal was just the spark his team needed.

"Both teams came out kind of slow," Flynn said. "Sometimes when a team scores on us, we play much better soccer afterward."

Forward Rebecca Wyffels, from Travis Air Force Base, Calif., led the Air Force comeback, scoring three goals and assisting on the fourth.

"After they scored, we realized that if we didn't pick up our game, we could lose again," she said.

The following five team members were named to the

all-tournament team: Wyffels; Rosemary Costello and Lindsay Winter, Los Angeles AFB, Calif.; Alexis Simollardes, Pope AFB, N.C.; and Karrie Tarkowski, Brooks AFB.

The following seven were selected to represent the United States in the first Conseil International du Sport Militaire World Military Women's Soccer Championships, which ended May 30 in Kingston, Ontario: Costello,

Tarkowski, Simollardes, Polly Sandness and Laura Stearns, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio; Kristy Kulzman, U.S. Air Force Academy, Colo.; and Jayne Baker, Hurlburt Field, Fla. (Army Spec. Zack Shelby, Fort Eustis, Va., contributed to this story)

“ Both teams came out kind of slow. Sometimes when a team scores on us, we play much better soccer afterward. ”

Joe Flynn
Air Force Women's
Soccer Team coach